

AMENDMENT

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-33. (Canceled)

34. (Currently Amended) A method of creating an animated entity for delivering a multi-media message from a remote sender to a recipient, the method comprising:

receiving from the remote sender an image file having a portion associated with an animated entity and a portion associated with a background, the background and animated entity representing separate, non-seamless images portion;

receiving from the remote sender marked features on the image file associated with the animated entity in the context of the background; and

delivering a multimedia message comprising the background wherein the animated entity speaks and moves in the context of the background, wherein, as the animated entity moves, an extrapolation method fills voids between the animated entity and the background.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising, prior to receiving from the remote sender marked features on the image file associated with the animated entity, zooming the image file to allow the remote sender to more accurately mark the image file associated with the animated entity.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, further comprising:

receiving a selection from the remote sender of one of a predefined set of animated entities for insertion in a position of the image file associated with the marked features of the image file and wherein delivering the multimedia message comprises presenting the background wherein the selected animated entity speaks and moves in the context of the background.

37. (New) A system for creating an animated entity for delivering a multi-media message from a remote sender to a recipient, the system comprising:

a module configured to receive from the remote sender an image file having a portion associated with an animated entity and a portion associated with a background, the background and animated entity representing separate, non-seamless images;

a module configured to receive from the remote sender marked features on the image file associated with the animated entity in the context of the background; and

a module configured to deliver a multimedia message comprising the background wherein the animated entity speaks and moves in the context of the background, wherein, as the animated entity moves, an extrapolation method fills voids between the animated entity and the background.

38. (New) The system of claim 37, further comprising, a module configured prior to receiving from the remote sender marked features on the image file associated with the animated entity, to zoom the image file to allow the remote sender to more accurately mark the image file associated with the animated entity.

39. (New) The system of claim 37, further comprising:

a module configured to receive a selection from the remote sender of one of a predefined set of animated entities for insertion in a position of the image file associated with the marked features of the image file and wherein the module configured to deliver the multimedia message presents the background wherein the selected animated entity speaks and moves in the context of the background.

40. (New) A tangible computer readable medium storing instructions for controlling a computing device to create an animated entity for delivering a multi-media message from a remote sender to a recipient, the instructions comprising:

receiving from the remote sender an image file having a portion associated with an animated entity and a portion associated with a background, the background and animated entity representing separate, non-seamless images;

receiving from the remote sender marked features on the image file associated with the animated entity in the context of the background; and

delivering a multimedia message comprising the background wherein the animated entity speaks and moves in the context of the background, wherein, as the animated entity moves, an extrapolation method fills voids between the animated entity and the background.

41. (New) The tangible computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the instructions further comprise, prior to receiving from the remote sender marked features on the image file associated with the animated entity, zooming the image file to allow the remote sender to more accurately mark the image file associated with the animated entity.

42. (New) The tangible computer readable medium of claim 40, wherein the instructions further comprise:

receiving a selection from the remote sender of one of a predefined set of animated entities for insertion in a position of the image file associated with the marked features of the image file and wherein delivering the multimedia message comprises presenting the background wherein the selected animated entity speaks and moves in the context of the background.